



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/728,741	12/01/2000	Gerrit Bleumer	P00,17 ¹⁸ ₄

CONFIRMATION NO. 2355

000026574
SCHIFF HARDIN & WAITE
6600 SEARS TOWER
233 S WACKER DR
CHICAGO, IL 60606-6473

FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000005677237

Date Mailed: 01/15/2001

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The oath or declaration is unsigned.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$130 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- **The balance due by applicant is \$ 130.**

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Substitute drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 because:
 - drawing sheets do not have the appropriate margin(s) (see 37 CFR 1.84(g)). Each sheet must include a top margin of at least 2.5 cm. (1 inch), a left side margin of at least 2.5 cm. (1 inch), a right side margin of at least 1.5 cm. (5/8 inch), and a bottom margin of at least 1.0 cm. (3/8 inch);

The following item(s) appear to have been **omitted** from the application:

- Figure(s) 6 described in the specification.
- 03/21/2001 GDEBELA1 00000052 09728741
01 FC:105 130.00 OP

I. Should applicant contend that the above-noted omitted item(s) was in fact deposited in the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with the nonprovisional application papers, a copy of this Notice and a petition (and \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(i))) with evidence of such deposit **must** be filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice. The petition fee will be refunded if it is determined that the item(s) was received by the PTO.

II. Should applicant desire to supply the omitted item(s) and accept the date that such omitted item(s) was filed in the PTO as the filing date of the above-identified application, a copy of this Notice, the omitted item(s) (with a supplemental oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63 and 1.64 referring to such items), and a petition under 37 CFR 1.182 (with the \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(h)) requesting the later filing date **must** be filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice.

III. The failure to file a petition (and petition fee) under the above options (I) or (II) within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice (37 CFR 1.181(f)) will be treated as a constructive acceptance by the applicant of the application as deposited in the PTO. **THIS TWO MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b)**. In the absence of a timely filed petition in reply to this Notice, the application will maintain a filing date as of the date of deposit of the application papers in the PTO, and original application papers (*i.e.*, the original disclosure of the invention) will include only those application papers present in the PTO on the date of deposit.

In the event that applicant elects not to take action pursuant to options (I) or (II) above (thereby constructively electing option (III)), amendment of the specification to renumber the pages consecutively and cancel incomplete sentences caused by any omitted page(s), and/or amendment of the specification to cancel all references to any omitted drawing(s), relabel the drawing figures to be numbered consecutively (if necessary), and correct the references in the specification to the drawing figures to correspond with any relabelled drawing figures, is required. Any drawing changes should be accompanied by a copy of the drawing figures showing the proposed changes in red ink. Such amendment and/or correction to the drawing figures, if necessary, should be by way of preliminary amendment submitted prior to the first Office action to avoid delays in the prosecution of the application.

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*



Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): GERRIT BLEUMER
SERIAL NO.: 09/728,741
FILED: December 1, 2000
TITLE: "FRANKING METHOD AND APPARATUS"

#3

Assistant. Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231

**SUBMISSION OF SIGNED DECLARATION AND FORMAL DRAWINGS
IN RESPONSE TO THE NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS**

S I R:

Applicant herewith submits a signed Declaration in response to the Notice dated January 15, 2001 (copy attached).

Also in response to that Notice, Applicant submits four sheets (Figs. 1-7) of Formal Drawings for the above application. The drawings comply in all respects with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.84. In the Notice, it was stated that Figure 6 had not been included among the original drawings, however, the bottom-most Figure on the second sheet of the originally-filed drawings (which also includes Figures 3 and 5) is, in fact, Figure 6, but apparently due to a copying oversight, the label "Figure 6" was omitted. From the written portion of the specification, however, it is clear that this Figure is, in fact, Figure 6, and therefore Applicant is entitled to the original filing date of December 1, 2000.

A check for the statutory fee in the amount of \$130.00 is submitted herewith.

Submitted by,

Steven H. Noll (Reg. 28,982)

Steven H. Noll

SCHIFF HARDIN & WAITE

Patent Department

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Attorneys for Applicant(s).

CUSTOMER NO. 26574

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231 on March 15, 2001.

Steven H. Noll

Name of Applicants' Attorney

Steven H. Noll

Signature

March 15, 2001

Date